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7. — *Poems*. By the Author of "A Life for a Life," "John Halifax, Gentleman," etc. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1860. pp. 270.

MANY of these poems have been floating hither and thither on this side of the water for some time. It is pleasant to find their authorship, so long unclaimed, resting at last on one so favorably known to the public. Collected, revised, and largely added to, they form a pretty volume, which breathes, from its first page to its last, the same gentle truthfulness which makes the chief charm of Miss Muloch's novels. In spite of the variety of subject, there is great uniformity of treatment, and few of the poems rise into the region of the upper ether; but they have other merit, which gives them interest. Some of them are eminently household verses, fitted to come pleasantly before the memory in the pauses of home avocations, and to echo the sentiments of daily life. The most pretentious among them are the least successful, and many of them betray carelessness of construction and deficiency of melody. The little ballad of "Lettice" is one of the most finished, and unites great pathos with quite dramatic piquancy. As a whole, the volume will not add materially to Miss Muloch's reputation, but, from its geniality and sympathy, will still farther endear her to those who already know her through her other works.

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8. — *New Miscellanies*. By CHARLES KINGSLEY, Rector of Eversley. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1860. pp. 375.

THE subjects brought under discussion in this new collection of articles by Mr. Kingsley are chiefly of a practical character, and exhibit him, not only as a critic upon the literary merit of the works which he reviews, but also as a keen observer of the operation of the theories involved in them. The pressing necessity for a wide sanitary reform seems to have come home to his mind with peculiar force, and in examining the arguments of others upon this matter, he gives us a brilliant and concise *résumé*, which embodies in a few lines the pith of many voluminous pamphlets. Through the sparkling satire and trenchant rebuke of the first article in the volume there flows a vein of strong good sense and calm conviction which shows the writer to be thoroughly grounded in his premises. Several of the other articles revolve around the same central subject, and present a long array of facts which vindicate the great importance of prompt reform in sanitary regulations. The arguments apply, of course, most directly to the crowded population of the Old World; but even to us, dwellers in a newer land, they speak

with authority. We are glad to notice recent signs of an awakening among ourselves upon this matter, for the question is of evils which, taken in season, present little difficulty, but, neglected for a while, become almost unmanageable. To the philanthropist Mr. Kingsley eloquently commends this opportunity "for some nobler, more methodic, more permanent benevolence than that which stops at mere almsgiving and charity schools"; to the political economist he urges it as a certain means for the reduction of crime and the increase of effectiveness in a given population; and to those who are alarmed at the number of mouths which Mother Earth must feed already, he points out the exhaustless fertilizing principle embodied in her very waste.

In the critique upon Shelley and Byron, Mr. Kingsley's opinion, although somewhat at variance with the general judgment, is well supported by his argument. He seems to read the characters of the two men with clear insight, and translates their poetry through knowledge of the states of mind in which their poems were born. This award is marked with his usual fairness, and expressed with that decision and perspicuity which always make us feel that we have his honest opinion upon each topic he discusses. The article on "The Fool of Quality" is a warm-hearted tribute to a man whose name has been suffered to rust in the memory of the present generation, but who, through Mr. Kingsley's praise, is anew introduced to the reading public.

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9. — *The Marble Faun: or, The Romance of Monte Beni.* By NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE, Author of "The Scarlet Letter," etc., etc. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1860. 2 vols. 16mo. pp. 283, 284.

ON the publication of Mr. Hawthorne's last romance, his writings were made the subject of an extended article in this journal; and we need not therefore enter into any discussion now of his general characteristics, for they remain unchanged except by the modifications arising from moral and intellectual growth. The greater part of the interval which has since elapsed has been passed by Mr. Hawthorne in England and in Italy, and the book before us is the first fruit of his residence abroad, — to be followed, we hope, by many other productions of equal merit. As a work of art, we are inclined to place it above either of his previous books. Its style has a harmony and beauty of expression and a warmth of coloring which are seen in none of his other writings, and there are passages in which criticism cannot suggest even the alteration of a word. Though it owes much of its interest to the mystery surrounding its principal character, and is deeply penetrated by the